



Hawaii Transfer

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April 21, 2009

Subject: Bill 4, CD 2 – Relating to the use of electronic devices while operating motor vehicles.

Thank you, Chair Apo and Council members.

I am Dave Kanda, Assistant Vice President, of Hawaii Transfer Company, Ltd. We support the Gary Okino version of Bill 4, CD2 – proposed floor draft 1.

As a commercial trucking company we need to have the capability to communicate with our drivers at all times of the day to make the most efficient use of their driving hours, maximize fuel efficiency and provide the best possible customer service. This is accomplished using the cell phone “direct connect” feature which operates as a two-way radio (push to talk).

With this “direct connect” feature our drivers can be diverted en route to eliminate wasted time and fuel cost, not to mention improved customer service via instantaneous response time to a customer pick-up request.

The cell phone includes a GPS feature which allows the dispatcher to track the driver’s location and monitor the driver’s vehicle speed. The GPS feature is a security enhancement as it allows the dispatcher to track any high value shipments or any hazardous material shipments that could be targeted by terrorists. The cell phone is portable so the driver can be tracked on any truck they decide to operate.

The cell phone is also programmed to disallow the driver from making any outside phone calls. The only phone calls are from the dispatcher. The dispatcher also has the capability of sending text messaging which the drivers respond with pre-programmed numeric responses. These messages are used to inform the drivers of traffic accidents or slow downs.

During these tough economic times and with the high cost of fuel, it is imperative that we continue to utilize the cell phone to communicate with our drivers.

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